

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

DRC-01 OMB-01 /176 W

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R 110630Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2419

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 10664

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, PFOR, PK, IN, BG

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF BENGALLEES, NON-BENGALLEES, AND POW'S

REF: ISLAMABAD 9946

1. SURVEY OF THREE-WAY MOVEMENT OF SOUTH ASIAN
REPATRIATES AND REFUGEES SHOWS CONTINUING PROGRESS.
ACCORDING RED CROSS IN ISLAMABAD, 29287 POW'S AND CIVIL
INTERNEES WERE REPATRIATED THROUGH NOVEMBER 30 (13150
IN NOVEMBER) OUT OF APPROXIMATELY 92,000: AT CURRENT
RATE OF ONE TRAIN LOAD (840) ALTERNATE DAYS, WILL
REQUIRE ABOUT 5 MORE MONTHS TO COMPLETE REPATRIATION.
DURING SAME PERIOD 20992 NON-BENGALLEES MOVED FROM
BANGLADESH (10,117 IN NOVEMBER) OF ESTIMATED 70,000,
WITH ADDITIONAL 5 MONTHS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE
REPATRIATION AT CURRENT RATE. TOTAL OF 54373
BENGALLEES MOVED FROM PAKISTAN (25555 IN NOVEMBER) OF
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ESTIMATED 126,000, WITH MOVEMENT TO BE COMPLETED IN

THREE MONTHS IF CURRENT RATE MAINTAINED.

2. BOTH GOP AND RED CROSS BELIEVE RECENT INCREASE IN MOVEMENT OF NON-BENGALEES TO PAKISTAN IS DUE TO LARGER NUMBER INDIVIDUAL ENTRY PERMITS GRANTED, BETTER TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN BANGLADESH, AND DIVERSION SOME UNHCR PLANES TO CHITTAGONG TO PICK UP REFUGEES THERE RATHER THAN MOVING THEM ALL TO DACCA FOR ONWARD PASSAGE. BOTH SOURCES NOTE SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN PAST CREATED WHEN GOP DEFINED QUOTE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES UNQUOTE TO EXCLUDE RAILROAD AND OTHER PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND QUOTE FAMILY MEMBERS UNQUOTE TO COVER ONLY HUSBANDS, WIVES, CHILDREN, MINOR UNMARRIED SIBLINGS, AND ELDERLY DEPENDENT PARENTS. BOTH FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM DEFINITION OF THESE CATEGORIES HAVE NOW BEEN LARGELY RESOLVED.

3. WE UNDERSTAND ALL HIGH-LEVEL BENGALEE CIVIL SERVANTS HAVE NOW BEEN REPATRIATED AND MILITARY ARE MOVING. THERE ARE SOME REPORTS, HOWEVER, THAT PAKS MAY BE HOLDING BACK SOME FEW BENGALEE MILITARY POSSIBLY WITH VIEW TO BARGAINING FOR THE 195 PAK POW'S GOP CONTINUES COMPLAIN THAT GOI IS NOT REPATRIATING POW'S AT PACE REQUIRED UNDER DELHI AGREEMENT FOR SUMULTANEITY. WE HAVE NOTED IN PAST WEEK OR SO, HOWEVER, THAT NUMBER OF POW'S REPORTED CROSSING AT WAGAH ON ALTERNATE DAYS HAS RISEN FROM 840 TO AROUND 880-900, WHICH SUGGESTS GOI MAY BE RESPONDING IN SOME MEASURE TO STEP-UP IN MOVEMENT OF NON-BENGALEES. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO DELHI MAY HAVE ON THIS POINT. ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE DACCA COMMENTS ON NUMBERS OF NON-BENGALEES WHO MAY QUALIFY IN UNLIMITED CATEGORIES AND PROGRESS THEIR EMIGRATION.BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPATRIATION, REFUGEES, ARMISTICE, POW RETURN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ISLAMA10664
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731232/aaaaaxql.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ISLAMABAD 9946
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCHANGE OF BENGALLEES, NON-BENGALLEES, AND POW'S
TAGS: SREF, PFOR, PK, IN, BG
To: STATE NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005